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3731

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	09/721,405
		Filing Date	November 21, 2000
		First Named Inventor	HOUSER, RUSSELL A.
		Group Art Unit	3731
		Examiner Name	BUI, VY Q.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	CNVG-004US1DIV2
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<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT</b>			
Signing Attorney/Agent (Reg. No.)	CAROL M. LASALLE, 39,740 BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP		
Signature			
Date	October 23, 2003		

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**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION  
REQUIREMENT**

Address to:  
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Application No.	09/721,405
Confirmation No.	6301
Filing Date	November 21, 2000
First Named Inventor	HOUSER, RUSSELL A.
Examiner	BUI, VY Q.
Group Art Unit	3731
DOCKET NO.	CNVG-004US1DIV2

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 30, 2003 for which a one-month period for response was given making this response due on or before October 30, 2003. This response is also responsive to the Supplemental Office Action dated October 14, 2003. The Supplemental Office Action was provided by the Examiner as a result of an Interview held between the undersigned and the Examiner in which the undersigned identified certain inconsistencies in the original Office Action. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Interview and for the Supplemental Office Action correcting some of the inconsistencies, and hereby affirms the contents of the Interview Summary provided along with the Supplemental Office Action.

The Examiner has found that at least claim 1 is generic and has identified the following distinct species of the claimed invention:

End to side fitting:

- Species 1: Fig. 38a-38c
- Species 2: Fig. 39a-d
- Species 3: Fig. 40a-g
- Species 4: Fig. 41a
- Species 5: Fig. 41g-hc
- Species 11: Fig. 41g

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Applicants respectfully wish to point out that the identified figures in Species 5 appears to be typographically incorrect and the identification of Fig. 41g in Species 11 is duplicative of the figures identified for Species 5. For purposes of responding to this Office Action, the Applicant assumes that the figures of Species 5 should read "Fig. 41g-h" and that identification of Species 11 is incorrect.

The Examiner has required that the Applicant elect a single species within each group. Applicants

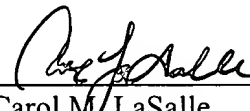
hereby elect Species 2 (Figs. 39a-d) of Group I and identify claims 1-8 as reading on Species 2 of Group I. Applicants also respectfully assert that all of claims 1-8 are generic to all respective species identified.

Applicants expressly reserve the right under 35 USC §121 to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter or any subject matter disclosed in this application during the pendency of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number CNVG-004US1DIV2.

Respectfully submitted,  
BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP

Date: 10/23/03

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